NOW & WHITE 1.60 1 4X.100 DIO 4100 DEC 2 2002 11.00 P.U

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

Maertens et al.

Atty. Ref.: 2752-52

Serial No. 09/899,303

Group: 1648

Filed: July 6, 2001

Examiner: Bao Qun Li

For: PURIFIED HEPATITS C VIRUS ENVELOPE PROTEINS FOR DIAGNOSTIC

AND THERAPEUTIC USE

December 5, 2002

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

AMENDMENT

Responsive to the Official Action dated November 5, 2002, entry and consideration of the following amendments and remarks are requested.

IN THE CLAIMS

Amend the claims as follows.

89. (Amended) The recombinant vector according to claim 67, wherein said

vector is avipox.

90. (Amended) The recombinant vector according to claim 67, wherein said

vector is Ankara Modified Virus (AMV).